

## **Determination of Parenthood**

Determination of parenthood is very actual topic due to the constant changes of the traditional understanding of the family and family relationships. It is primarily the development of modern medical science, biology or genetics that has brought new concepts into the issue of determination of parenthood. For example surrogacy, assisted reproduction or baby boxes. The legislation must respond to these changes in order to stabilize family relationships and to ensure their protection.

The aim of this thesis is to describe and to analyze Czech legal regulation of determination of parenthood and to compare it with not only European but also global legislation. The analysis of valid legal regulation highlights questionable passages that may cause difficulties in its interpretation or practical application.

The thesis is composed of nine chapters, each of them dealing with different aspects of determination of parenthood. Opening chapter introduces the historical development of relationships between parents and children in Roman and European law. It focuses on legal standards applicable in our country during the period of time from the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic to the present times.

Chapter Three is devoted to determination of maternity. It focuses on concealed birth, anonymous childbirth, childbirth out of hospital and surrogacy. It also mentions the legislation process in case of determination of maternity.

Chapter Four deals with the regulation of determination of paternity in the Czech Republic as well as in chosen European countries. Following chapter discusses in details the issue of determination of parenthood in the new Civil Code, which was approved in early 2012 and which will come into effect on January 1, 2014.

Selected decisions of the Constitutional Court and the Supreme Court of the Czech Republic are provided in Chapter Six. It analyzes the facts of individual cases considering the issue of family law that have led courts to adopt particular conclusions. Analysis of international conventions and judgements given by European Court of Human Rights are mentioned in Chapter Seven and Eight. This part characterises trends in family policy and the issue of determination of paternity at the international level. Conclusions and recommendations for future legal regulation are drawn in final Chapter Nine.